

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 30, 2004

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JUDGES ATTEND LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Five Utah Justice Court judges recently attended the 2004 Leadership Institute for Judicial Education in Memphis, TN. This was the first time Justice Court judges have participated in the institute.

The Leadership Institute provides advanced training and education on educational theories and practices with an emphasis on their applicability to judicial education. The following members of the Justice Court Education Committee attended the meeting: Judge Jody Petry, of the Uintah County Justice Court; Judge P. Gary Ferrero, of the Murray City Justice Court, Judge Terry Moore, of the Smithfield Justice Court, and Judge Dean Olsen, of the Springville Justice Court. Judge Michael Kwan, chair of the Board of Justice Court Judges, and Kristine Prince, Administrative Office of the Courts education program coordinator also participated in the training.

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As part of attending the institute, participants are required to develop an action plan for improving judicial education. The plan will be monitored during the coming year and the results reported at the 2005 institute.

Utah participants' attendance was supported by scholarships from the State Justice Institute (SJI), a nonprofit organization established by federal law to award grants to improve the quality of justice in state courts nationwide, facilitate better coordination between state and federal courts, and foster innovative, efficient solutions to common problems faced by all courts. SJI grants support the Institute and its many programs throughout the year. Part of the SJI grant will fund an onsite judicial education program in Utah by the institute faculty, which is tentatively planned for Dec. 2004.

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The mission of the Utah Courts is to provide an open, fair, efficient, and independent system for the advancement of justice under the law.